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RR RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHDH RUEHKUK RUEHROV  
DE RUEHLB #0552 1380436  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 180436Z MAY 09  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4914  
INFO RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC  
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS BEIRUT 000552

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ELA  
STATE PASS USTR FRANCESCKI/ GRYNIEWICZ  
STATE PASS USAID BEVER/LAUDATO/SCOTT  
TREASURY FOR PARODI/BLEIWEISS/CORREA  
USDOC FOR 4520/ITA/MAC/ONE  
NSC FOR MCDERMOTT

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [ETRD](#) [KIPR](#) [PGOV](#) [LE](#)

SUBJECT: LEBANON: 2009 SPECIAL 301

REF: STATE 42821

[1](#)1. (SBU) Econoff delivered reftel demarche to acting Director General of the Ministry of Economy and Trade (MOET) Fouad Fleifel on May 7. In addition, Post sent the Special 301 report and comments to senior and working level contacts at the Ministries of Culture, Health, Finance, Justice, and Administrative Reform. Post passed the information to Lebanon's customs and police departments, economic teams of several political parties, and MPs in parliament's economic and financial parliamentary committees.

[1](#)2. (SBU) As Lebanon is preparing for the June 7 parliamentary elections, Post believes that pursuing the demarche with higher level contacts would have a greater effect after the elections, once a new cabinet is in place.

[1](#)3. (U) Post will pass on any further GOL comments on the Special 301 report. Post POC is EconOff Amy Tachco (tachcoan@state.gov).

SISON